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DE RUEHSB #0479 1541554  
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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2977  
INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY  
RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 2019  
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 2140  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 0682  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 1417  
RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 1775  
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 2196  
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 4627  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK  
RHMFISS/EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1282  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS HARARE 000479

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

AF/S FOR S. HILL  
ADDIS ABABA FOR USAU  
ADDIS ABABA FOR ACSS  
STATE PASS TO USAID FOR E. LOKEN AND L. DOBBINS  
STATE PASS TO NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR B. PITTMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [ASEC](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [ZI](#) [ZM](#)  
SUBJECT: WOZA: THANK YOU MARCH FOR ZAMBIAN SUPPORT LEADS TO  
14 ARRESTS

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Show of Gratitude Results in Arrests  
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[11](#). (SBU) Between 500 and 600 members of Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) and Men of Zimbabwe Arise (MOZA), held a peaceful mid-day march on Wednesday May 29 in downtown Harare, which was broken up by police. According to the WOZA communications officer, the march was to protest the current post-election violence in Zimbabwe, to call on the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to intervene, and to thank the Zambian government for their efforts to speak out within SADC. The marchers intended to walk three blocks to the Zambian embassy along Kwame Nkrumah Avenue, a main street in Harare's business district. WOZA said it notified the Zambian embassy of their march just minutes before they began. The Zambian embassy has not communicated with WOZA since the march.

[12](#). (U) Just before marchers arrived at the Zambian embassy, police arrived and arrested one man and thirteen women, including WOZA National Coordinator Jenni Williams, who received Secretary Rice's International Women of Courage Award for Africa in 2007. The 14 were charged with "activity likely to cause public disorder." Williams was charged with an additional account of "causing disaffection among the police and publishing false information." On Friday May 30, all were granted bail, but the State appealed, leaving the WOZA members in jail until their second hearing on June 6.

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COMMENT  
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[13](#). (SBU) This is the third march WOZA has coordinated since the March 29 election, including a Mother's Day protest on May 5 against post-election violence in which 11 WOZA and MOZA members were arrested and 59 were injured. While WOZA is known for their frequent protests and arrests (over 70 protests and 2,500 arrests since their founding in 2003,

according to WOZA's press release), this detention appears abnormally long, and it appears that the Zimbabwean government is using its appeal powers to keep politically-motivated persons in jail for more extended periods of time as the June 27 presidential runoff draws closer. END COMMENT.

Warren